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THE OBSERVATOR.

Encouragement given to the Papists, *a Detriment to the Government. Of the Book call'd,* The Exorbitant Grants of King *William. Of the Evil Practices of Goalers. Of the Abuse of Her Majesties Royal Prerogative. A farther Account of the Blasphemous and Immodest Expression used on the* English *Stage.*

From **Saturday** January the 1st, to **Wednesday** January the 5th, 17$\frac{0}{4}$.

Country-m. MAster *Observator*, The good People at *London* say You hit the Mark, when you told us, that the *Papists*, *Jacobites*, and *Non-jurors*, were encouraged to enter into this Hellish Conspiracy against my Queen, by their finding our Coast so Ill-Guarded, and the Wooll-Affair under so confus'd a Management. They say my Queens Enemies have had too much Encouragement given them; but they hope our good Parliament will enquire into it, and find out, and Punish such as are Guilty.

Obs. Indeed, Honest *Country-man*, the Encouragement given to *Papists*, and Men Disaffected to the Government is Foundation enough for a Plot of this Nature, and such Practices have often been the Destruction of *Governments*, and the Causes of *Revolutions*. I remember but two Persons, since Her Majesties happy Accession to the Throne, that have been Prosecuted, Convicted, and Punished for Writing and Speaking, and those Protestants, and such as Love the Queen, and would venture their Lives for the Liberties of *England*, and the present Settlement, *viz.* Mr. *James Taylor*, who was Prosecuted long after the Words were Spoken, and Mr. *Foe*, for Compiling a System of *High-Flying Divinity* and *Politicks*. I need not mention the Bill brought against me at the Sessions at the *Old-Bayly* for Writing against the *Papists*, that is Notoriously known already; nor of many Instances of Favours shown to the *Papists*, and the Enemies of our Queen and Realm; but I shall instance in one particular, which may perhaps in some Measure open the Eyes of *Englishmen*, and serve as a Perspective for them to behold the Sources and Originals of their Impending Dangers.

The Book call'd *The Exorbitant Grants of* William *the Third*, was Written during the Sessions of Parliament, and Dedicated to the Queen, than which no greater, nor more dangerous Libel has been Printed in this Age: Perhaps the Reflections therein on the Memory of King *William*, may be overlook'd by some People, and may Atone for the Crimes of the Author, for no other Reason, than that that Prince of Immortal and Glorious Memory, was in his Life time the Happy Deliverer of these Realms and People from *Popery* and *Arbitrary-Power*; by which means, after his Death, we Enjoy Queen *Ann*, and the Liberties of *England*. I should tire your Patience to tell you all the Marks of Infamy this Author has put upon our late and Glorious Soveraign, and the Reflections on our present Queen; yet I shall give you a Sample of each, that you may see, in little, the Villany of that Book.

Of King *William* he says. *By the Policy of* W——m, *to screen himself, he got the* S——n *Excluded, Attainted, and Abjur'd.* —— *It was one of the Legacies of* William *the Third, to his* K——m *having resolved a little before his* Exit *to be Kind to the* S——n, *as he was to the* Father and Family.

Of Queen *Ann* he says. *The State of Affairs now well Considered, Future Ages will not only Applaud the Queen, but will render it the most Glorious Action of Her Life to take the G——t upon Her for the Three following Reasons,* First, *To keep the Monarchy Entire*; Secondly, *To keep the Crown, the Royal Authority, and the Power of Her own Blood*; *and* Thirdly, *To keep the* St——rs *out of the* English *Throne.*

Country-m. And did this Fellow escape Punishment? If so, we need not Wonder at Plots.

Obs. Yes, Sir, I'll assure you he escaped; when he wrote the Book he was a Prisoner in the *Queens Bench*, under a Fine for Writing a Libel in King *Williams* Time, and after he had Written this Book (whether as a Reward for his Service or no I can't tell) but, sure it is, he had the Liberty of the Rules of that Prison, and not long afterwards his full Enlargement. I wish with all my Heart, Honest *Country-man*, it were Convenient for me to Publish on the House Top, what I have often spoken in a Corner among Friends in Relation to this Book, which if every Man in *England* knew, especially our Parliament, I fancy we should all of us bethink our selves on what Ground we now stand.

Country-m. Now, Master *Observator*, I smell a *Rat*, a *Popish-High-Flying-Non-juring Rat*. I Wonder'd, it seems, t'other Day at a thing that is Customary: As I was Riding thro the *Burrough* near St. *Georges* Church, I heard the People say, there goes the *Incorrigible Rogue*: I was minded to see the Villain, and so got a sight of his Roguelhip. But methinks 'tis a sad thing that a Villain should have Favour shown him, because he has Lyed backwards and forwards for a Popish Interest.

Obs. Honest *Country-man*, thou dost not understand Prison-Politicks, thou wil't never be Rogue enough as long as thou livest. You don't know what Advantage it is to the Court at St. *Germains* to have a *Perkinite* Marshal, Warden or Goal-Keeper in *England*. There are the prettiest close Rooms that can be, in Prisons, for *Papists*, *Jacobites* and *Smuts* to Plot together; they come thither under pretence of seeing Prisoners, and Encouraging Sinners to Repentance, and often, upon the breaking out of a Plot, the Traytors have been secured in Goals under the Notion of Debtors. I think for these Reasons particular Care should be taken who we have for Marshals, and Goalers, that we may be secure from the Plots and Contrivances that are so often hatched in those Emblems of Hell, by the Contrivance of the *Terrestrial Beelzebubs*; but these things we must leave to the Consideration of our Superiours in Parliament.

Country-m. Master *Observator*, your Discourse last time we met, made me bring this Paper, which I pick'd up at a Coffee-House, where there were several of them Dispersed for the Propagation of Vice.

Obs.

Obſ. Let me ſee it; here is Her Majeſties Coat of Arms at the Top; and underneath it, *By Her Majeſties Authority*, very well: And what Authority is this, to which Her Majeſties Coat of Arms is affix'd? Why, Sirs, *This is to give Notice to all Gentlemen, Ladies and others, that there will be Preſented an excellent new* Play, *&c. With Sarabands, Minuets, Borees, Maſquerades, and Currants*, and many Helliſh Entertainments; a very fine Piece of Buſineſs. But I muſt not overlook the Bottom of the Bill, *viz. Any Gentlemen or Ladies may have a private Play any time of the Day, giving Notice an Hour before-hand; Perform'd by* Ann Wood. Her Majeſties *Authority* at the Top, and *Ann Woods* Private Play at the Bottom, ſeem very inconſiſtent with Her Majeſties *Motto*; and all true *Engliſhmen*, and good *Chriſtians*, may hence obſerve, how little Reſpect ſome Men have for the *Honour* of the Crown and the *Reputation* of our truly Virtuous Queen, when they expoſe Her Royal Authority in ſuch an *Impious* and *Infamous* manner. I hope ſome good *Proteſtant Miniſter* or other will Acquaint Her Majeſty of this *Abominable and Wicked* Practice, that Her Majeſties *Sacred Authority* and our *Holy Religion* may no longer Suffer, and be rendred Contemptible in the Eyes of the *Vulgar*.

Country-m. An't pleaſe you, here's another Bill of the ſame Nature with the former, with Her Majeſties Coat of Arms affix'd alſo. *At the* Bear-Garden *in* Hockley *in the* Hole, *near* Clarkenwell-Green, *is a great Match to be Fought, between a Fallow Bald-Face Dog in* Grays-Inn-Lane, *and a Fallow Dog in* Hockley *in the* Hole, *&c. With Variety of Bull-Baiting, and Bear-Baiting. And concludes with* Vivat Regina.

Obſ. Very well indeed! Her Majeſties *Authority* at this rate is extreamly abuſed; it will now behove the Learned Rector of *Hockley in the Hole*, who was Confeſſor to *Cook*, the *Prize-Fighter*, to give us an Account of the Religious Uſe of *Dog-Fighting*, *Bear* and *Bull-Baiting*. Was there ever an Age ſo *Impious*, ſo hardned in *Sin*, and ſo prone to *Vice*, as this we now live in? Shall *Sin* bear the Stamp of *Regal Authority*, when *Virtue* is Diſcouraged? And can this be done and Suffered without the greateſt Grief and Abhorrence of the truly Virtuous among Us? Surely no: —— I ſhall now Proceed to give you a farther Account of the Blaſphemous and Immodeſt Expreſſions uſed on the *Engliſh Stage*, as follows.

In the Play call'd, The Provok'd Wife.

Lord! What Notions have we ſilly Women from theſe Old Philoſophers of Vertue, for Vertue is this, and Vertue is that, and Vertue has its own Reward; Vertue! Vertue is an Aſs, and a Gallant is worth Forty on't.

If I ſhould play the Wife and Cuckold him,
That would be playing the down-right Wife indeed.
I know according to the ſtrict Statute Law of Religion, I ſhou'd do Wrong; but if there were a Court of Chancery in Heaven, I m ſure I ſhou'd caſt him.

If there were a Houſe of Lords you might.

If you ſhould ſee your Miſtreſs at a Coronation, dragging her Peacocks *Train, with all her State and Inſolence about her, it would ſtrike you with all the awful Thoughts that Heaven it ſelf could pretend to, from you.*

Madam, to oblige your Ladyſhip, he ſhall ſpeak Blaſphemy.

In hopes thou'lt give up thy Body, I reſign thee Soul.

A Villain, but a Repenting Villain, Stuff Saints in all Ages have been made of.

Satan and his Equippage; Woman tempted me, Weaken'd me, and ſo the Devil overcame me, a Adam, *ſo fell I.*

A Bill was likewiſe found againſt the Player the other Houſe, in the Term above-mentio for the following Expreſſions; but the In ment being wrong laid, they were acquit but they were Indicted the Term following the ſame, which Indictment is not yet Tri

In the Humour of the Age.

Marriage, that was only contriv'd for the me Rank; Tell me of Marriage! Commend me to a W Every ſerious Thought, ſo much Time loſt.

We Addreſs you with the ſame Awful Re rence we Petition Heaven.

In Sir *Courtly Nice.*

Nay, his Salvation is a Looking-Glaſs, for there finds his Eternal Happineſs. Surly's Heaven, at l his Prieſt is his Claret-Glaſs; for to that he confe all his Sins, and from it receives Abſolution and C fort: But his Damnation is a Looking-Glaſs, for th he finds an Eternal Fire in his Noſe.

That ſame thing, the Word Love, *is a Fig-Leaf cover the Naked Sence, a Faſhion brought up by E the Mother of Filts, ſhe Cuckol'd her Husband wi the Serpent, then pretended Modeſty and fell a maki of Plackets.*

Let him be in Miſery and be Damn'd.
And a Pox on thee for't.
Prithee Dreſs and be Damn'd.
Pox on 'em: Pox on you all Whores.
Pox take him.
Rot me.
Let him Plague you, Pox you, and Damn you; don't care and be Damn'd.

Advertiſements.

THE Exorbitant Grants of King *William* the III. Examin'd and Queſtion'd. Shewing, The Nature of *Grants* in Succeſſive and Elective Monarchies; and proving by Law and Hiſtory, that *Crown-Lands* are Inalienable: That *Reſumptions* were common all the World over; and likewiſe ſhewing, That where a Prince hath no Hereditary Title, he can make no Hereditary Right. And that *Kings* ſet up by Parliament, can diſpoſe of no Land but with the Conſent of Parliament, which renders *William* the Thirds Grants Totally void. With Reflections on each Paragraph. Price 6 *d.*

Sold by *J.* How, at the *Seven-Stars* in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace-Church-ſtreet*.

A New Sheet Almanack, with the Picture of Queen ANN, Curiouſly Engraven on a *Copper Plate*, with ſeveral Lively Figures ſignifying ſome of Her Moſt Sacred Majeſties Inherent Vertues. On Her Right Hand is Repreſented *Wiſdom* and *Religion*; on Her Left Hand *Juſtice* and *Moderation*, *&c.* Price 1*s.* 6*d.* in a *Frame*, and 6 *d.* Without, Sold by *Samuel Cope*, at the *Cat* and *Rain-Bow*, the Corner of *Grocers Alley*, being the Paſſage to the *Bank of England*, in the *Poultrey*. Where is likewiſe to be had another New Sheet Almanack with K. *Williams* Head finely Engraven on a Copper Plate, ſupported by two Angels, and Trophies of War. To which is added his Character. Price 1*s.* and 6*d.* in a Frame, and 6*d.* without. Where you may likewiſe have *Meſotinto* Prints, all ſorts of other Prints; *Frames Gilt* or *Black*, Square or Oval. All ſorts of *Varniſh*, and *Materials* for *Japanning*. Likewiſe all ſorts of Pictures either for *Chimney-Pieces*, *Stair-Caſes*, or any other purpoſe. A Proſpect of a Light Houſe, 80 Foot high, 6 Leagues from any Land, Contriv'd and Erected by Mr. *Winſtanly*, on the Eddy Stone, near Plimouth, which was by the laſt moſt dreadful Storm, 40 Foot blown down, by the Fall of it was ſeven Perſons Loſt beſides the Projector. Price 6 *d.*

Where you may have *COPE*'s Liquid Balſam, which is the moſt ſpeedy and effectual Remedy as ever was apply'd to either Burns, Scalds, Cuts, Stabs, Bruizes, Sprains, Contuſed or Corteriſed Wounds; it being the firſt applyed, it does overcome the moſt Violent Inflamations in one Hour, and a perfect Cure in a little Time. It is Sold for 2*s.* 6*d.* and 1*s.* the Bottle.

London, Printed by *J. How*, at the *Seven Stars*, in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace-Church-Street*; and Sold by *B. Bragg*, at the *Blue-Ball*, in *Avemary-Lane*, 17$0\frac{3}{4}$.